

Date: 2025-08-01 First Name: Donna Last Name: Wurster

Title: Captain, US ARMY (Retired) Organization: Common Defense

Address:
City: Murphy
State: TX
Zipcode:

Phone:

Affirm public info: I agree

Regarding: Congressional

Message:

Subject: I Fought for Democracy — This Map Undermines It

My name is Donna Wurster, and I am a proud Army veteran, a resident of Collin, Texas, and a member of Common Defense, the nation's largest grassroots organization of progressive veterans.

I'm submitting this testimony to STRONGLY oppose the proposed redistricting map. The way this map is drawn is not just a political tactic — it's a direct assault on democracy, on communities of color, and on the veterans who return home to live in them.

This map targets Black and Brown neighborhoods, strips representation from active, community-rooted congressional leaders, and slices up communities where veterans rely on accessible services and trusted representation. It seeks to dilute urban votes seen as more democratic with rural voters unfairly characterized as more autocratic.

As a veteran, I am deeply concerned that this map makes it harder for us to defend and expand services through the VA. It's no coincidence that these lines gut areas where our VA Not for Sale campaign has traction — because silencing our voices silences our fight to protect the benefits we earned.

This redistricting proposal is not neutral. It is strategic, harmful, and unjust. I urge the committee to reject this map, hold public hearings in the affected communities, and draw lines that respect real people — not partisan power.

Vote NO on this Bill and prove to me that you are not the men and women Federalist 10 warned us about, "Men of factious tempers, of local prejudices, or of sinister designs, [who] by intrigue, by corruption, or by other means, first obtain the sufferages, and then betray the interests, of the people."

Signed, Donna Marie Wurster Army Veteran Member, Common Defense Collin County